



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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Title 49—TRANSPORTATION

Chapter I—Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, Department of Transportation

[Docket No. HM-34; Amdt. Nos. 173-21, 177-11]

PART 173—SHIPPERS

PART 177—SHIPMENTS MADE BY WAY OF COMMON, CONTRACT, OR PRIVATE CARRIERS BY PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Liquefied Petroleum Gas in Cargo Tanks Constructed of Quenched and Tempered Steel

The purpose of this amendment to the Hazardous Materials Regulations of the Department of Transportation is to make reference to an ASTM copper strip corrosion standard for shipments of liquefied petroleum gas in MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel instead of the present reference to National Gas Processors Association Publication 2140.

On August 20, 1969, the Hazardous Materials Regulations Board published a notice of proposed rule making, Docket No. HM-34; Notice No. 69-26 (34 F.R. 13427) to clarify the application of NGPA 2140 by requiring that liquefied petroleum gas meet only the classification 1 corrosion criterion (copper strip method) set forth in ASTM Standard D1838-64. An appropriate amendment to § 173.315(a)(1) note 15 was proposed along with corresponding changes to §§ 173.427 and 177.817 to coordinate shipping paper requirements.

Interested persons were afforded an opportunity to participate in this rule making. Of the comments received no objections were taken to the basic pro-

posal. Comments were received urging that the word "noncorrosive" required to be shown on the shipping papers to indicate the suitability of LPG for such cargo tanks, be permitted to be abbreviated "NONCOR" because of limited space on shipping papers. The Board believes that the abbreviation "NONCOR" is adequate for the purpose intended and the amendment reflects this change.

Another commenter requested that provision be made for the continued use of existing preprinted bills of lading containing the term "NGPA 2140", in place of the notation "NONCORROSIVE", until the supply has been exhausted but no longer than 1 year after the effective date of the amendment.

The Board is aware that alteration or further documentation of preprinted bills of lading poses certain operational problems. The Board believes that by making this amendment effective 6 months after issuance there will be adequate time for depletion of existing stocks. Nothing in this amendment would prevent a shipper from overprinting preprinted shipping papers.

In consideration of the foregoing, 49 CFR Parts 173 and 177 are amended as follows:

I. Part 173 is amended as follows:

(A) In § 173.315(a)(1) note 15 following the table is amended to read as follows:

§ 173.315 Compressed gases in cargo tanks and portable tank containers.

(a) * * *
(1) * * *

NOTE 15: Specs. MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of other than quenched and tempered steel (NQT) are authorized for all grades of liquefied petroleum gas. Only grades of liquefied petroleum gases determined to be "noncorrosive" are authorized in specs. MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel (QT). "Noncorrosive" means the corrosiveness of the gas does not exceed the limitations for classification 1 of the ASTM Copper

Strip Classifications when tested in accordance with ASTM D1838-64, "Copper Strip Corrosion by Liquefied Petroleum (LP) Gases". (For (QT) and (NQT) marking requirements see § 177.823(b)(5) of this chapter. For special shipping paper requirements, see §§ 173.427(a)(4) and 177.817(a)(2) of this chapter.)

(B) In § 173.427 subparagraph (a)(4) is amended to read as follows:

§ 173.427 Shipping papers.

(a) * * *

(4) For each shipment of "noncorrosive" liquefied petroleum gas in specifications MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel the shipper must also show "NONCORROSIVE" or "NONCOR" to indicate suitability for shipment in such tanks as authorized by § 173.315(a)(1) table, note 15.

II. Part 177 is amended as follows:

(A) In § 177.817 subparagraph (a)(2) is amended to read as follows:

§ 177.817 Shipping papers.

(a) * * *

(2) A carrier must not accept for transportation or transport liquefied petroleum gas in specifications MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel unless the shipping paper is marked "NONCORROSIVE" or "NONCOR" to indicate suitability for shipment in such tanks as authorized by § 173.315(a)(1) table, note 15 of this chapter.

This amendment is effective October 30, 1970. However, compliance with the regulations as amended herein is authorized immediately.

(Secs. 831-835 of title 18, United States Code; sec. 9, Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. 1657)

Issued in Washington, D.C., on April 22, 1970.

F. C. TURNER,
Federal Highway Administrator.

[F.R. Doc. 70-5222; Filed, Apr. 28, 1970; 8:49 a.m.]